

We claim:-

1. A suspension comprising

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A) at least one oxidation-sensitive substance selected from the group consisting of carotenoids, retinoids and unsaturated fatty acids and

10 B) solid particles of one or more salts of ascorbic acid

in a dispersant in which the salts of ascorbic acid are insoluble.

15 2. A suspension as claimed in claim 1, comprising

A) 0.1 to 40% by weight of one or more oxidation-sensitive substances selected from the group consisting of carotenoids, retinoids and unsaturated fatty acids and

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B) 1 to 50% by weight of one or more salts of ascorbic acid,

where the % by weight data are based on the total amount of the suspension.

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3. A suspension as claimed in either of claims 1 or 2, comprising

A) at least one retinoid and

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B) solid particles of one or more alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal salts of ascorbic acid.

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4. A suspension as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, comprising as component B) solid particles of one or more salts of ascorbic acid whose average particle size is in the range from 0.01 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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5. A suspension as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, comprising retinol and at least one alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal salt of ascorbic acid.

45 6. A suspension as claimed in claim 5, comprising sodium ascorbate and retinol.

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7. A suspension as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, additionally comprising  $\alpha$ -tocopherol.
8. A suspension as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the dispersant in which the salts of ascorbic acid are insoluble is an oil suitable for use in cosmetics and in human or animal nutrition.
9. A suspension as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, additionally comprising at least one desiccant, at least one thickener and/or at least one surface-active agent.
10. A process for preparing a suspension as defined in claim 1, which comprises
  - 15 a) grinding solid particles of one or more salts of ascorbic acid in a dispersant in which the salts of ascorbic acid are insoluble until the average particle size is from 0.01 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ , it being possible to add the oxidation-sensitive substance(s) selected from the group consisting of carotenoids, retinoids and unsaturated fatty acids to the dispersant before, during or after the grinding, or
  - 20 b) grinding solid particles of one or more salts of ascorbic acid without using a continuous phase until the average particle size is from 0.01 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ , and then suspending the ground particles in a dispersant in which the salts of ascorbic acid are insoluble, it being possible to add the oxidation-sensitive substance(s) selected from the group consisting of carotenoids, retinoids and unsaturated fatty acids to the dispersant before, during or after the suspending of the solid ascorbate particles.
- 35 11. The use of solid particles of one or more salts of ascorbic acid as antioxidants for oxidation-sensitive substances selected from the group consisting of carotenoids, retinoids and unsaturated fatty acids in a dispersant in which the salts of ascorbic acid are insoluble.
- 40 12. The use as claimed in claim 11, in which the average particle size of the solid particles is in the range from 0.01 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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13. The use as claimed in either of claims 11 or 12, which includes  $\alpha$ -tocopherol as additional, oil-soluble antioxidant.
14. The use of suspensions as defined in any of claims 1 to 9 as addition to human foods and animal feeds, pharmaceuticals and cosmetic preparations.
15. The use as claimed in claim 14 as addition to feed in animal nutrition.
16. The use as claimed in claim 15 for application to animal feed pellets.
17. The use as claimed in claim 16, wherein the animal feed pellets are loaded with the oily suspension under reduced pressure.

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